Reply to Office Action of October 15, 2003

Remarks

Claims 1-18 are pending in this application. The Examiner has withdrawn claims 4, 5, 14-16 and 18 by virtue of a restriction requirement. The remaining claims, claims 1-3, 6-13 and 17, have been rejected.

In addition, claim 8 has been objected to for including the phrase "a electrical power" in line 13, wherein the claim should recite --electrical power--. Appropriate correction has been made herein and, thus, all formal requirements are believed to have been met.

With regard to the prior art rejections, claims 1, 2, 6, 8-10 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Chang (U.S. Patent No. 6,584,695). Moreover, claims 3, 7, 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang in view of Baines (U.S. Patent No. 5,097,170). Lastly, claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chang in view of Poet et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0170404).

Applicants do not believe that the Chang reference is prior art against the subject application, as Applicants conceived this invention in a WTO country prior to the effective date of January 2, 2002. Applicants' conception is coupled with due diligence from a period of time prior to the effective date of *Chang* until the subsequent filing of the present application on January 25, 2002, establishing a constructive reduction to practice.

Attached hereto is a Declaration of the inventors under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131, attesting to their earlier conception, coupled with due diligence, from a time prior to January 2, 2002 until the subsequent filing of the present application. As evidence of the conception, attached to their Declaration are e-mails accompanied with solid model drawings illustrating the subject matter of the present invention. In addition to the solid model drawings, two-

Atty Dkt No. TTII 0112 PUS

S/N: 10/056,297

Reply to Office Action of October 15, 2003

dimensional engineering drawings of certain subject matter of the claimed invention are also

included to provide further evidence of conception.

The inventors further attest that they were diligent from a time prior to January

2, 2002 up and until the subsequent filing of the present application. On December 5, 2001,

a draft, as evidenced by Exhibit D of the Declaration, was supplied to the inventors for their

review. On December 20, 2001, a second draft, as evidenced by Exhibit E of the Declaration,

was supplied to the inventors for their review. Following review, Applicants' patent counsel

incorporated necessary changes to the patent application draft and prepared it for filing with

the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which filing was completed on January 25, 2002.

As Applicants have established conception at a date prior to January 2, 2002,

coupled with due diligence from a time prior to January 2, 2002 until the subsequent filing of

the present application, Chang is not believed to be prior art. As all the claim rejections are

based on *Chang*, their withdrawal is respectfully solicited.

Applicants submit that all formal and substantive requirements for patentability

have been met and that this case is now in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is

respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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